

HA-1560
New Ideal Diner
Aberdeen
Private

1952

The New Ideal Diner is a virtually unaltered diner restaurant exemplifying the streamlined, fast-paced era of automobile transportation after World War II. Its form is a direct outgrowth of the needs of highway travel. The shiny stainless steel exterior covering has horizontal bands of green glass tile and geometrically patterned panels. This building is the fourth diner on the site, the first being built in 1930. The present diner was manufactured in 1952 in Elizabeth, New Jersey by the Jerry O'Mahony Company.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

New Ideal Diner

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

104 South Philadelphia Blvd. (U.S. 40)

CITY, TOWN

Aberdeen

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Harford

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT
☒ BUILDING(S)
☐ STRUCTURE
☐ SITE
☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC
☒ PRIVATE
☐ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS
☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED
☐ UNOCCUPIED
☐ WORK IN PROGRESS
ACCESSIBLE
☐ YES: RESTRICTED
☒ YES: UNRESTRICTED
☐ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE ☐ MUSEUM
☒ COMMERCIAL ☐ PARK
☐ EDUCATIONAL ☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE
☐ ENTERTAINMENT ☐ RELIGIOUS
☐ GOVERNMENT ☐ SCIENTIFIC
☐ INDUSTRIAL ☐ TRANSPORTATION
☐ MILITARY ☐ OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

George J. Engleson

Telephone #: 272-2980

STREET & NUMBER

434 Woodcrest

CITY, TOWN

Aberdeen

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code
Maryland 21001**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC

Harford County Courthouse

Liber #:

Folio #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Bel Air

STATE

Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

76-1034

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The New Ideal Diner is a one-story rectangular restaurant with polished and patterned stainless steel sheathing located on the west side of South Philadelphia Blvd. (U.S. 40) about 1/2 block south of the intersection of Bel Air Avenue.

The plan is essentially a one-room dining area with the kitchen and service areas behind and parallel with the dining room. The entrance is in the center of the street facade and has two glass and stainless steel doors reached by separated runs of concrete stairs. The shiny stainless steel exterior covering has horizontal bands of green glass tile below the band of windows extending around the entire dining room area and a fluted cornice above the windows marks the roof line. On the roof is a neon sign of free-standing streamlined letters on a low pedestal. A square brick chimney rises from the rear of the building.

The interior consists of a long divided counter with pedestal revolving stools and a series of booths and tables between the counter and front wall. The back wall of the counter area has a stainless steel backsplash. The entrance to the kitchen is in the center of the wall. Above the door is a stainless steel clock. The walls and coved ceiling are covered in pink formica sheets with stainless steel trim. Lighting is recessed at the edge of the cove. Each booth has a formica table top and vinyl banquettes. "Juke box" selectors are also in each booth.

The area between the diner and the street is paved and a large sign replacing an earlier lower sign is at the edge of the street.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES	1952	BUILDER/ARCHITECT	Jerry O'Mahony, Inc.
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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The New Ideal Diner is a virtually unaltered diner restaurant exemplifying the streamlined, fast-paced era of automobile transportation after World War II. Its form is a direct outgrowth of the needs of highway travel; providing basic, no-fuss meals convenient to main transportation route in an architectural form derived from the railroad dining car, symbolizing fast, efficient food service.

This building is the fourth diner on this site, the first being built in 1930. The present diner was manufactured in 1952 in Elizabeth, New Jersey by the Jerry O'Mahony Co. and transported in four sections to Aberdeen where it was assembled. A plate attached to the inside entry door gives the manufacturer's name and location and the company moto: "In Our Line We Lead the World".

NA-500

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Harford County Directory, 1953
Construction information on diner menu, researched by owner.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME TITLE

Janet Davis, MHT/SHA Surveyor

December 4, 1980

ORGANIZATION

Maryland Historical Trust

DATE

(301) 269-2438

STREET & NUMBER

21 State Circle

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Annapolis

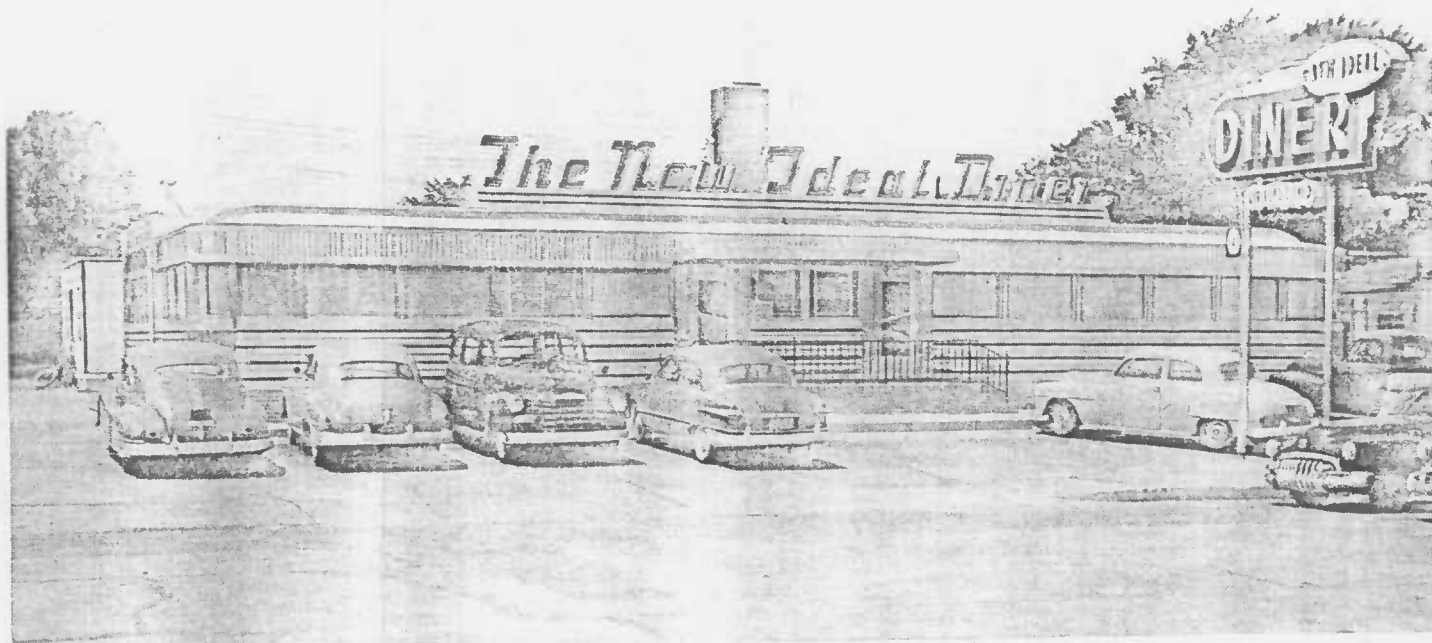
STATE

Maryland 21401

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438



THE NEW IDEAL DINER

ULTRA MODERN

Equipped to Serve You in Style

. BREAKFAST

. LUNCH

. DINNER

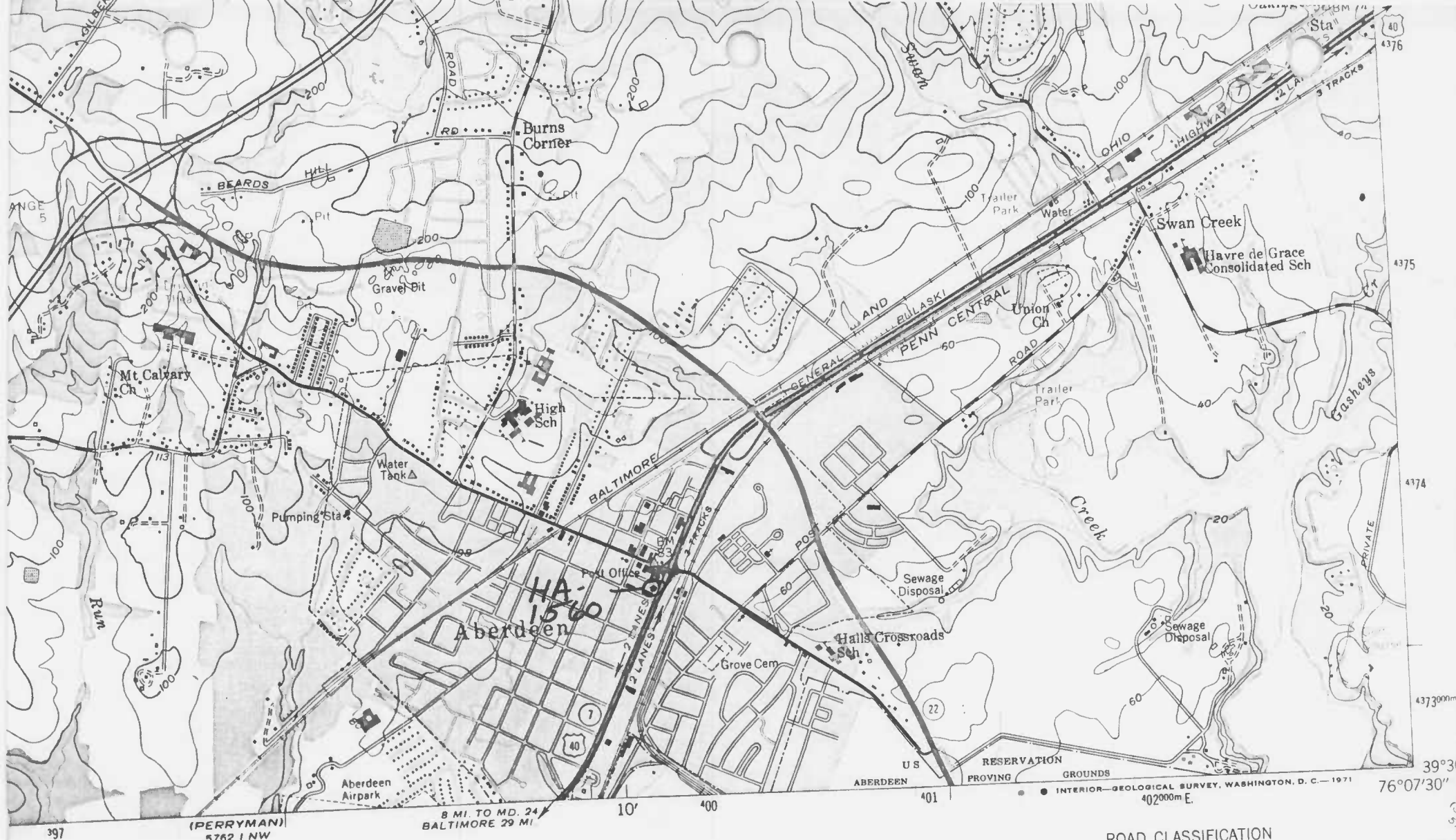
ONE OF THE LARGEST DINERS FROM MAINE TO FLORIDA

PHILADELPHIA BLVD.

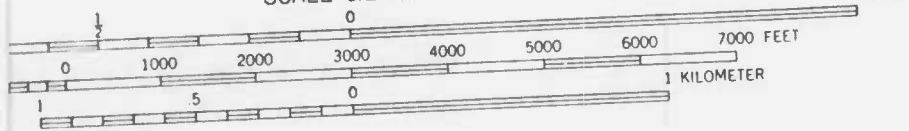
U. S. ROUTE 40

Phone 206 and 950

ABERDEEN, MARYLAND



SCALE 1:24000



CONTOUR INTERVAL 20 FEET
DATUM IS MEAN SEA LEVEL

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
SURVEY WASHINGTON, D. C. 20242



QUADRANGLE LOCATION

Revisions shown in purple compiled from aerial photographs
taken 1970. This information not field checked

ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Heavy-duty	4 LANE 6 LANE	Light-duty
Medium-duty	4 LANE 6 LANE	Unimproved dirt
U. S. Route	State Route	

ABERDEEN, MD.

SW/4 HAVRE DE GRACE 15' QUADRANGLE
N3930—W7607.5/7.5

1953
PHOTOREVISED 1970
AMS 5763 II SW—SERIES V833

HA-1560







